J. W. BAKER.

Attachment to Rubber Overshoes.

No. 203,813. Patented May 21, 1878.

*Fig. 1.*

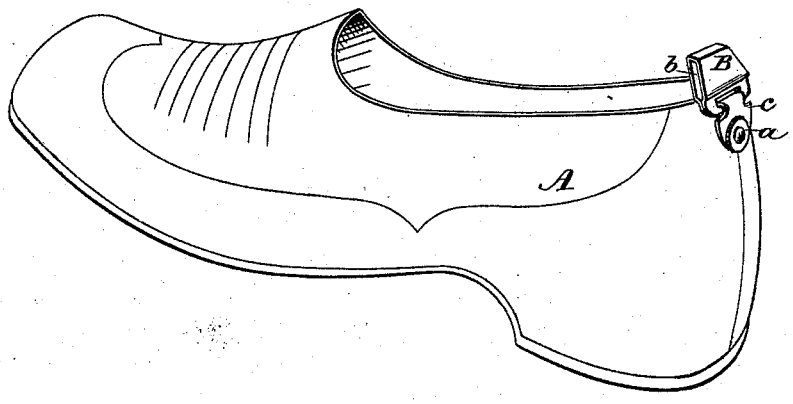
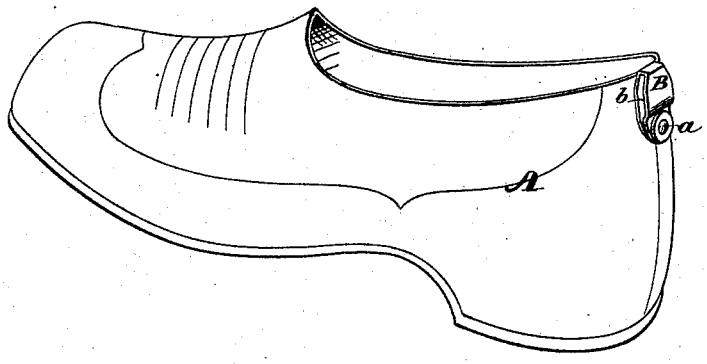



*Fig. 2.*




*Witnesses:*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. BAKER, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN ATTACHMENTS TO RUBBER OVERSHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,813**, dated May 21, 1878; application filed April 25, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES WILLIAM BAKER, of Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Rubber Overshoes; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a rubber shoe having my improvement. Fig. 2 represents a modification of the same.

Rubber overshoes made in the usual form, when used by ladies over boots having tapering heels, are liable to come off while walking.

My invention relates to devices which can be applied in a few minutes by any retail dealer to rubber overshoes, either before or after they have been selected, and thus secured to the feet of the wearer.

My invention consists in metallic loops, to be riveted to the upper part of the counter of rubber overshoes, either directly or by means of a tongue hinged to it, the said loops being used to receive a strap passing over the instep of the wearer.

In the drawings, A represents a rubber overshoe, and B a piece of sheet metal, bent so as to form a loop with an opening, *b*, through which a strap of semi-elastic or non-elastic material can be passed and be made to encircle the instep of the wearer. This loop B is attached to the upper part of the counter of the shoes by means of a rivet, *a*, passing through said counter. In Fig. 1, the loop B is shown as hinged at its lower part to a tongue, *c*, of metal, and this tongue is fastened to the counter by the rivet *a*; but in Fig. 2 the loop is shown as riveted directly to the counter. For large shoes the first mode is preferable, as the hinge protects the rivet-connection from all forcing or leverage motion that may tend to tear the counter. For shoes of small size the mode of fastening the loop direct to the counter is found to answer all the purposes for which it is intended.

I am aware that straps of plain textile material, or of the same material as the shoe, have been attached to rubber shoes over the counter or under the instep during the process of making the shoes; but they do not answer the same purpose as my metallic loop, as with the latter only half the stock of goods on hand is required to supply the same demand for plain overshoes, or overshoes to be fastened on by straps, as the former can be transformed into the latter by the retail dealer in a few minutes, if required, at the time a sale is made—an advantage that is not found in any fastening with which I am acquainted.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

1. In combination with the counter of an overshoe, the metallic loop B, formed of sheet metal, adapted to receive and hold an ankle-retaining strap, substantially as set forth.

2. In combination with the counter of a shoe and a metallic tongue, C, riveted to said counter, the metallic loop B, hinged to said tongue, substantially as and for the purpose described.

JAMES WILLIAM BAKER.

Witnesses:

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